

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A system for monitoring a product inventory utilized in a blood component collection facility for collecting at least one blood component from a donor, the blood component collection facility comprising a blood component collection instrument capable of being adapted to the donor wherein an operator facilitates interaction of the donor with the blood component collection facility, the system comprising:
- a system server comprising a blood component collection application having a segment defining at least a portion of a blood component collection process;
  - 10 a product inventory database in communication with the blood component collection process, the product inventory database representing a quantity of a product being available for use within the blood component collection facility;
  - an interface being operably connected to the system server, the interface including a reader for entering a blood component collection facility identifier;
  - 15 a web browser embedded within the interface; and,
  - an inventory web page cooperating with the web browser for providing access to the inventory database wherein the product inventory can be monitored.
2. The system of Claim 1 wherein the product is a blood component collection kit having a blood component collection kit identifier wherein entry of the blood component collection kit identifier is entered into the interface concomitantly with utilization of the blood component collection kit.
3. The system of Claim 2 wherein the blood component collection kit comprises:
- 25 a blood component container;
  - a hyper dermic needle;
  - a blood component sample container; and,
  - a label.
4. The system of Claim 1 further comprising:
- 30 a product threshold level;
  - an alarm being responsive to the product inventory being less than or equal to the

product threshold level; and,

a product order, the product order being generated in response to the alarm wherein a predetermined amount of product is ordered to replenish the product inventory.

- 5           5. A method of monitoring a product inventory utilized in a blood component collection facility for collecting at least one blood component from a donor, the blood component collection facility comprising a blood component collection instrument capable of being adapted to the donor wherein an operator facilitates interaction of the donor with the blood component collection facility, the method comprising the steps of:
- 10           providing a product identifier being assigned to the product;
- providing a system server comprising a blood component collection application having a segment defining at least a portion of a blood component collection process;
- providing a product inventory database in communication with the blood component collection process, the product inventory database representing a quantity of
- 15           a product being available for use within the blood component collection facility;
- providing an interface being operably connected to the system server, the interface including a reader for entering a blood component collection facility identifier;
- providing a web browser embedded within the interface; and,
- providing an inventory web page cooperating with the web browser for providing
- 20           access to the inventory database wherein the product inventory can be monitored.

6. The method of Claim 5 further comprising:

utilizing the product;

reading the product identifier into the interface;

25           transmitting the product identifier to the system server;

updating the product inventory to reflect the use of the product.

7. The method of Claim 6 further comprising:

providing a product threshold level; and,

30           generating a product order in response to the product inventory being less than or equal to the product threshold level.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO